ZAMI, Inc.

The Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund

Promoting Black Lesbian/
Gay Scholarship

Your Silence Will Not Protect You

September 17, 2006

To encourage excellence is to go beyond the encouraged mediocrity of our society. Audre Lorde

Audre Lorde

ZAMI: A Carriacou word for women who work together as friends and lovers...

The 2006 Audre Lorde Scholarship Donors

Cherie Caldwell is Managing Director, Human Resources at Delta Air Lines, Inc. Caldwell has global responsibility for Talent Acquisition, Retention and Diversity for the fastest growing international passenger airline carrier. In her newly appointed role, she is accountable for building global strategies and implementing programs to optimize the hiring and retention of critical and diverse talent.

She most recently served as the Managing Director, Human Resources, Customer Service. As a senior executive team member, she developed and implemented human resources strategies to enhance operational effectiveness for the 35,000+ employees of the In Flight, Reservations, and Airport Customer Service divisions. Prior to this role, she was Director of Human Resources with oversight of human resources programs for the approximate 15,000 flight attendants.

Before joining Delta, Caldwell served as Vice President, Human Resources, reporting to the CEO, of a leading B2B company in the forest products industry. She has worked at senior levels at well known Fortune 500 companies such as Pepsico and Kraft.

Caldwell graduated with honors from the University of Maryland where she majored in Human Resources Management. She currently holds a professional SPHR certification and lives in Atlanta.

A native of Louisiana, **K.M. Griffin** is a graduate of Louisiana State University. She has worked over 15 years in the energy and utility industries, where she currently serves as a Manager in the area of Legal and Regulatory Compliance. Griffin makes her home in a suburb of Atlanta, GA where she is an advocate for elderly and HIV/AIDS concerns.

Linda Bryant, co-founder of Charis Books and Charis Circle, has been lovingly involved with ZAMI since its inception. Her formal education is in English from the University of Florida and in theology from the Candler School of Theology at Emory, but her life lessons come from her years of daily engagement with the wonderfully diverse and committed community she meets at Charis, from her long-term love with Wendy Belkin, and from being a parent and now grandparent. Bryant's desire to serve Spirit with integrity and grace is the heart of her life.

Wendy Belkin was born in Cleveland, Ohio. She took her accounting final in August, 1979, got in her car, and drove Atlanta. She has been here ever since. Belkin practices law accounting in her own small practice in Decatur and has been a long supporter of Charis Books, Charis Circle and ZAMI. She is an amateur astronomer and photographer.

Brinda Taylor is a native of Jackson, Mississippi and studied Therapeutic Recreation at the University of Mississippi Jackson State University. She is currently employed as a Program Manager for Verizon Business (formerly MCI/Worldcom) dedicates her time/life volunteering for several organizations the Atlanta area such as Hands on Atlanta, CRN (Child Restoration Network), Juvenile Diabetes, and the AIDS Walk.

Taylor is currently the Community Action Coordinator for Alpharetta Ver employees. It is her belief that everyone can make an impact on someone by becoming a Volunteer in the Community. Taylor resides in Atlanta.

Founded in 1972 (and functioning through 1994), **ALFA (Atlanta Lesb Feminist Alliance)** was the first publicly out lesbian organization Atlanta. Its founding members came from many different social justice activist backgrounds, including the women's liberation, anti-war/peace, a imperialist and socialist, civil rights, and gay liberation movements. But A became a community functioning on social, educational and cultural as v as the political level. It established the first women's only space in the reg and made the space available not only for ALFA meetings, consciousness-r ing groups and events, but for other lesbian and feminist groups. ALFA formed the first out lesbian softball team in the City of Atlanta league published a newsletter that was a communication vehicle not only for Atl lesbians, but lesbians in the Southeast and the country as a whole.

Angelina Huguely is a native of Kentucky and graduate of East Kentucky University. She is an occupational therapist and has practiced in

Because of ZAMI, I think of myself as a full-fledged scholar of both intellectual merit and sensual consciousness."

Adetunji Olude is the recipient of the **Margaret Ntombi Howell Power & Presence Memorial Award** funded by Rhesa M. Jenkins & Ama Saran. She is pursuing a Law degree at the University of California in Berkeley, California. Fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, Olude chose juvenile law as a result of challenges she faced in her own life and "a childhood and adolescence plagued by domestic violence." Hence, she is currently employed as a legal assistant at Legal Services for Children in San Francisco, California, an organization of social workers, attorneys, and support staff who represent and protect the rights of children. Olude has long been an advocate for the rights of children in the role of counselor and legal assistant in local non-profit organizations. She makes the distinction between "growing up" and "growing" as she writes, "I recognized that a common thread weaves among youth in the delinquency, mental health, and foster care systems. Many of the youth have been abused and lack the constancy of supportive guardians or a safe environment in which to grow." Olude is determined to lead an authentic life and notes that the importance of being "out" for her has a lot to do with being fully engaged in relationships with family and friends and "sharing with them who I truly am."

Ruth Senecharles, recipient of the **Fourth Tuesday Award** is an entering freshman at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven , Connecticut. She states that her primary goal is to gain the essential skill set to become a social worker. Senecharles dreams of opening an after school program dedicated to helping children from low-income families as well as lesbian, gay and bisexual youth. "I want to have a safe place for youth to question, and learn and have healthy mutual relationships with adults. I don't want lgbt youth growing up feeling confused and depressed about their sexuality." According to Senecharles, keeping her sexual orientation a secret in high school was stressful, frustrating and complicated. She became mad at the world and angry with herself, however, finally making the decision to come out to family and friends changed her life in a positive way. "Getting an award from the Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund is definitely an eye-opener for me. I'm now able to see how being a lesbian, which was something that I used to look down upon due to what society taught me has actually turned out to be helpful."

Anneliese Singh, a recipient of the **(ALFA) Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance Award** has been a member of the movement towards social justice as a queer woman of color in the Atlanta area for many years. In her community work, she has worked closely with the Queer Progressive Agenda, Trikone-Atlanta, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and AGLBIC (the Association of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual issues in Counseling. In her volunteer and advocacy work, Singh has led a support group for South Asian survivors of intimate partner violence and incorporated focus group work into her research with transgender individuals and South Asian women who have survived child sexual abuse. Singh, currently pursuing a doctorate in Counseling Psychology at Georgia State University dreams of founding a non-profit counseling center for LGBTQIQ people that would engage in advocacy and social justice work as well as focus on the ways that internalized oppression impact mental health for people of color and others from marginalized backgrounds. "Over the past year, I have been thinking about how important it is to be out in different ways. I have been working hard on being the best "out" transgender ally I can be. I no longer tolerate any anti-trans or genderphobic comments, and I do my best to invite understanding and education to transphobic people or people who are uneducated about trans issues."

Kaili Adia Story, recipient of the **Sheryl Burke Award**, is a Doctoral student in African-American Studies at Temple University in Pennsylvania. Story's dissertation is about "...the public embodiment performances of Black women and men who perform Black Femininity", paying particular attention to historical imagery of the "Hottentot Venus" and current images of the "Video Vixen", the "Black drag queen", and the "Black butch woman". Named the Graduate Fellow in the Institute for Race and Social Thought at Temple, Story currently teaches two courses there: one in Women's and LGBT Studies that examines same-sex erotic attraction and/or gender difference, and an African-American Studies course that provides an overview of the experience, culture, and political practices of African descendants throughout the world. To Story, it is important to use all of the books, films, and art that have influenced her as a means to communicate to her students; one of things she emphasizes to them is that "Black women have been working together for centuries to change the world that sometimes suffocates us all."

Caroline Tushabe, the recipient of the **Sheryl Burke Award**, is a Doctoral student at SUNY Binghamton studying Philosophy, Sexuality, Race and Gender. At Binghamton, she is an active member of a new initiative called, "The Projects of Queer Studies: Race, Pedagogy, and Social Theory." This initiative seeks to create an intellectual and political climate able to cultivate radical queer of color social thought and activism. Tushabe who serves as President of one of the Graduate Student Associations, also teaches, believing that it is her responsibility to come out as a lesbian of color in the classroom. "I feel responsible to myself and my students to break the silence and confront the fear that invades us all." Tushabe dreams of a future as a transnational cultural worker addressing queer issues in her native Uganda and in the United States. I hope to be part of a necessarily collective process- at the grassroots and in the academy-of making visible and speakable worlds of lesbian loving within the communities that constitute my own self as African, Ugandan, Mukiga, and ""lesbian of color", in the United States."

Described as a nonprofit guru, coalition builder, lgbtq/ human rights activist, cultural worker, feminist, writer, and scholar, **Craig Washington**, the recipient of the **Mary Anne Adams Award**, attends Georgia State University earning a degree in Social Work while continuing to work full-time as a volunteer and training coordinator at Positive Impact. According to Washington, "There is not a space or level of community interaction in which I am not open about my sexual orientation. After my initial coming out process, I was intentional about liberating myself from any vestiges of shame or self-consciousness about being gay. I would not befriend anyone who could not accept and affirm that aspect of my being. I am publicly out having appeared in numerous publications and television broadcasts as gay-identified. Being out is not a static condition but an ongoing process of evolution that entails an uncovering, an unpacking, a continual shedding to reach my divine humanity and recognize the humanity of others."

Jeremiah Waters, a rising junior at Drexel University in Philadelphia is the recipient of the **Cherie Caldwell Award**. Waters, a finance and information systems major assumed the entire financial burden for his college education after his clergy father informed him that he would no longer support him if he remained an active homosexual. "I personally take being out very seriously because of the price I have to pay to be an out gay man. Being out has been a wonderful, liberating experience, but it has also caused the most difficult time in my life with my conservative Christian family." With the help of friends and professors, Waters is determined to continue his education and thrive in his life. During the past year, he co-founded a student group called F.U.S.E. (Foundation of Undergraduates for Sexual Equality) where he currently serves as vice-president.

Karen Williams, recipient of the **Fourth Tuesday Award** is in her second year of a Ph. D. program at The Graduate Center, CUNY focusing on Cultural Anthropology. Although she has had an ongoing struggle to raise fund for her education, and continues to balance a full academic load with a demanding job, growing up in a household where neither parent attended college, education and expression have always been central to her goals. Since 1998, with support from grants and community organizations, Williams has used her writings and performances to illustrate the embedded physical and psychological pain of incarceration. At CUNY, her work has looked at the critical intersections for gender, race, sexuality and class as it relates to the criminalization of women. She is hopeful that her research will have a positive impact and help change society's representation of women in prison to images that "more accurately reflect their complex identities and experiences". Recently, Williams has examined the rise of meth usage in the queer youth of color community.

The 2006 Audre Lorde Scholars

Tamara Bullock, recipient of the **Sheryl Burke Award**, is in her senior year at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts. She is majoring in International Relations and aspires to work in the non-profit sector addressing the social, political, economic, and environmental aspects of development. She wants to focus on women, youth and the LGBT communities of color, both in the advanced and Third World countries. Bullock restarted and co-chaired an LGBT group for people of color at Mount Holyoke; organized meetings, dialogues, and poetry performances for LGBT people of color issues; and continues to write poetry celebrating LGBT identity. In April, Bullock was the recipient of a Mount Holyoke College 2006 Summer Research Fellowship for research on Gender and Development: Strategies of Survival, Resistance and Change: Comparative Case Studies of Development NGOs in Barbados & Trinidadphs taken during her studies in Egypt in 2005.

Charlene Cooper, is the recipient of the **Miya Binta Award**. At the age of seventeen with a new born infant, Cooper received the diagnosis that they were both HIV positive. After years of waiting to die, Cooper made the decision to live, and after obtaining her GED, graduated at the top of her class with a bachelor's degree and has now entered the graduate program at Columbia University School of Public Health. Currently, Cooper works as an HIV Adolescent Counselor by providing prevention counseling in an attempt to help eradicate the spread of HIV. She also counsels youth on other issues such as domestic violence, substance use, sexual identity and sexual assault.

Pamela Goodrich is the recipient of the **Kathi Martin-Edith Biggers-Brinda Taylor Award**. At 53 years of age, Goodrich has been "out" for the past forty years. "My perception of normalcy is the (lgbt) lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender community. As a sophomore at The College of New Rochelle in Brooklyn, New York, Goodrich is working toward a degree in Sociology which she feels is the key to opening the door to the rest of her life. A self-described "butch", Goodwin works in a male prison and believes that her sexual orientation and the fact that she has been living with HIV/ AIDS since 1989 enhances her ability to interact and provide HIV Health Education and Prevention Training to not only the prisoners but to members of the community at large. Her future plans are to open her own Community Based Organization providing services for women diagnosed with HIV/ AIDS, history of substance use, incarceration, domestic violence and other related issues that place them at risk.

Franda Graves, the recipient of the **Angelina Huguely Award**, writes about how important being "out" is to her. "As a daughter, former wife, mother, friend, family member, student and employee, being "out" changes for me in each of these settings. My sexuality, on the other hand, is not optional." Graves is a senior at the University of North Carolina, majoring in Communication Studies/Sign Language Interpretation. She currently works at the Moses Cone Health System as a Neonatal Respiratory Therapist and is the President: of the Deaf and Hearing College Connection, an organization that builds bridges between the deaf and hearing communities. Graves hopes to use her education to become a force in the Deaf community but, particularly, in the African-American LGBT Deaf community. Her goal, she says, is to "serve as an advocate, counselor, guide and friend to those suffering with HIV/AIDS in this community."

Brandon Kazen-Maddox, recipient of the **Rhonda Freeman-Sarah Crymes Award** is in his first year at the University of Washington in Seattle. Among his many activities in high school: drama, dance team, newspaper and science club, Kazen-Maddox also served as senior class president, captain of the varsity cheerleading squad and captain of the Athletic Club cheer team while enrolled in the honors track. He has worked as a sign language interpreter and a mentor of children through music. "With financial assistance, I hope to flat out succeed, states Kazen-Maddox. When I attempt to do something, I am going to do it 100% and persist until it is done. I work hard to take nothing for granted because I know how it feels to have nothing. I want to help people and make a huge difference in the lives of others. I want to be a person that people can look to and say, that guy is gay but he's really funny, nice, strong and he's also a leader."

Fiona Lewis, the recipient of the **Linda Bryant Award** has been an integral part of the Atlanta LGBT community and has been working at Charis Books & More for the past eight years. She moved to Atlanta after getting her undergraduate degree in Gender Studies and British and American Literature from New College of Florida. Lewis' first novel, Bliss, was published in 2005 by Kensington Books and her so more effort, A Taste of Sin, is being released this year. Lewis attends Diego University in California and is pursuing an MFA degree. Of one o favorite authors, she writes, "Like Michelle Cliff, I want to write abou Jamaica of my memories, but also about the country as it exists now. I to talk about things previously unmentioned, like women loving women men loving men, and about how we can change our world, or island, loud voice at a time." Emphasizing the connection between furthering education and how the ZAMI scholarship will support her goals, she co ues, "With an MFA, not only will I become a better writer, but I will als qualified to teach, have my summers and other breaks available to write, be a fully contributing member of my household." Lewis' short fiction been published in Best Lesbian Erotica 2004, Necrologogue: Diva Boo the Dead and the Undead, Wicked: Sexy Tales of Legendary Lovers, Lesbian Erotica, and Va-Va-Voom: Red Hot Lesbian Erotica.

Dale Guy Madison, recipient of the **Tony Daniels Community Award funded by ADODI Muse: A Gay Negro Ensemble**, writes sionately about coming out to his parents. "I came out in 1976 shortly my 18th birthday. I blurted it out in a moment of proud adoration. My fa told me I had to move out of his house in two weeks. My life changed in moment. My dreams of going to NYU and studying acting vanished. I ha figure out where I was going to live. My friends were preparing for the pr and I was shopping for an apartment. My closet door opened and I n closed it after that." Madison, a student at Santa Monica College in Califo is learning all he can about entertainment marketing by majoring in Busir In 1991, he became a host on the QVC shopping channel. On the show conceived and produced the first-ever shopping show dedicated to prod originating from Africa. Consequently, QVC helped to launch Madis career as a nationally recognized doll designer. Since then, he has co-fo ed an organization called AAD (Actors Against Drugs), coordinated the of Color AIDS Prevention Project, owned and operated an openly gay store (art-n-design) in the heart of the gay community of Baltimore, and ated a one-man show called *FREEda Slave: Mask of a Diva*, which addre the transgender community. In 2003, Madison left acting to work as a "te for Paramount Pictures. He reflects on his beginnings by writing, "I a product of television. I was conceived between an episode of Roy Rogers Wagon Train on a balmy night in July of 1957. Nine months later, Dale Madison was born. (I was) named for Dale Evans (Roy's wife) and Madison, one of the stars of Wagon Train; my purpose in life seemed tined."

Christel Serena Miller, recipient of the **Wer Belkin Award**, is a four-time Audre Lorde Scholars recipient. After graduating from Rice University in spring of 2005 with numerous awards, Miller is now in second year of graduate school at UCLA studying film ducing. Her vision these days is to simply produce f about which she is passionate. She gives an example writing, "*Brokeback Mountain* worked because it w heartfelt story about two characters and their unrequited love, not becau was advocating for gay rights." "Until recently," she continues, "I was focu on making a political/social statement and not on the essence of a movi (its) story and characters. I have (since) decided to only focus on the movies that I am passionate about—not because of their themes, but beca of their universal stories." Miller's most recent film, **Butchalez**, premie at the Reach LA Queer Youth Filmmakers Showcase earlier this year. She served as an intern at Pink Thunder Productions and HBO Films and duced **Welcome to Paradise,** an American Film Institute (AFI) "cycl film (first-year AFI fellows collaborate on three short film projects, referre as "cycles").

Sybille Ngo Nyeck is the recipient of the **K.M. Gri Award**. A junior at Swarthmore College in Pennsylva Ngo Nyeck fled her native Cameroon in May 2003 and sought asylum in the U.S. after being denounced as a bian and thrown in jail. The first woman to initiat dialogue beyond hetero-normative discourse Cameroon, her numerous publications and speeches human rights abuses have helped win asylum for other the U.S. She is also working on a video documentary turing the lives of gays and lesbians in Cameroon. Twenty years from n Ngo Nyeck envisions a time in which women loving women will be fre walk in the world and give their best to the mother continent. "Being par ZAMI's Audre Lorde Scholarship Family is special to me. This special feel comes from the realization that this scholarship does not dichotomize

The ZAMI Mission Statement

ZAMI's primary mission is to empower and affirm the lives of lesbians of African descent through providing scholarship funds, leadership development, support/discussion groups, social activities, outreach and education.

The Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund

The scholarship fund is the brainchild of ZAMI's current Executive Director, Mary Anne Adams. The first two scholarships were awarded in 1997 to Wendi O'Neal from Spelman College and Akeya Works from Georgia State University.

Since that time, we have awarded a total of 48, $1000 scholarships to "out" black lesbians and gay men nation–wide who are making significant contributions to their communities.

WWW.ZAMI.ORG: *Visit zami.org for more information on our scholars, donors, and upcoming events.*

Much love and appreciation to all our featured artists.

Special Thanks

YouthPride
Connie Cross
Adele & Pat Gipson
Lazer Age
Kelley Alexander
ALCI
Charis Circle
ITLA
Unity Fellowship
Eat's
Sarah Crymes
Saralynn Chestnut
The Drag Kings
The Pleasant Peasant
Agnes Scott College
Agnes & Muriel's

Shirley Adams
The Irish Pub
Royal Orchid
Mick's
Ami Mattison
Bindu Vanapalli
First Existentialist Cong.
Savage Pizza
Mellow Mushroom
Dale Butler
Wendy Darling
Dr. Sally Herbert
Tiona McCladden
Stacey Eames & Pat Swindall of Terminus

ZAMI Board Members

Mary Anne Adams — *Executive Director*
Beryl Jackson, *Chair*

Edith Biggers
Lynn Duhart
Jowanna Tillman

Simone Bell
Charone Pagett
Tonia Poteat
Frances E. Wood

tings ranging from pediatric to geriatric populations. In addition to being a health care professional, Huguely has been a saxophonist since elementary school. She enjoys all music genres, but receives greatest satisfaction while performing gospel. Huguely has been blessed to share the stage with gospel greats as Richard Smallwood and most recently, Babbie Mason. She resides in Richmond, Ky.

Fourth Tuesday is a diverse, non-profit organization serving the LGBT community in Atlanta and the Southeast. It has been dedicated to providing a safe, caring, and welcoming environment for business networking and social events for over 20 years.

Sheryl Burke is a Personal Injury Attorney who operates her own law practices based in Georgia and California. Burke, a native of Los Angeles, California, is a graduate of St. Louis University Law School and is a member of the National and Georgia Trial Lawyers' Association.

Tony Daniels Community Ally Award
Anthony C. Daniels (1965 – 1998), was one of Atlanta's most powerful organizers and activists. Daniels was a founder of In The Life Atlanta, Inc., of ADODI Muse, Inc., and of the Black Lesbian & Gay Poets Society. This scholarship is funded by ADODI Muse, Inc: A Gay Negro Ensemble, the black gay male performance poets' collective. Muse members, Duncan E. Teague, Malik M.L. Williams and Anthony Antoine specifically recognize Daniels' work to build bridges across diverse communities.

Edith Biggers, MD is a public health physician who delivers compassionate and state-of-the-art medical care to indigent, uninsured, underserved, and substance using HIV positive patients, with an emphasis on maximizing self-empowerment through education. Additionally, she has been a volunteer at AIDS Survival Project for more than 10 years. As an African American woman specializing in HIV care and treatment, her presence has an empowering effect on those the Project serves. A well-respected and knowledgeable provider, Dr. Biggers spends weekends and evenings talking directly with people living with HIV on how to improve their health by understanding their own health care needs. She serves as a role model for others in her profession and improves the lives of those who learn from her. Dr. Biggers is a native of Atlanta and received her MD from Emory University School of Medicine.

Rev. Dr. Kathi E. Martin is a speaker/preacher with particular concern for bridge-building across the divides of race, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation, and physical ability. From the beginning of her studies in engineering, continuing through her studies in ministry, Rev., Dr., Martin has believed persons are more effective when working together as a unit than they are when separated. Rev. Martin, a pastor at First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta, was pressured to leave her African Methodist Episcopal church in 1998 after sanctifying a same-sex marriage. A minister's daughter, Martin grew up proud to belong to a historical black church that was founded on liberation. But, she said, "I think it will be years before I would be comfortable in a traditional church."

A long time community activist and organizer, **Mary Anne Adams** serves as board Chair of ZAMI and is the founder of the Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund. In 1999, she founded Sister Outsider, a multi-cultured Atlanta based organization, with a focus on lesbians and aging issues. In 2000, she founded Madam Productions as a way to foster community through musical and literary expression. In 2002, Adams founded Drum Sista, a drumming performance group for lesbians of color. She received her Master of Social Work from Georgia State University and makes her living as a Senior Program Associate and Project Manager at Emory University School of Medicine while running her own business, The Adams Research Group.

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The Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund

PROGRAM

Saturday, September 30, 2006
The First Existentialist Congregation • 7:30 pm
Host for the Evening: Cara Page

Opening: DrumSista

Musical Selection: Lilli Lewis

Community Awards

Musical Selection: Louisa McCollough

Scholarship Presentations

Community Awards

Musical Selection: Lillie Huddleston

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September 30, 2006

Audre Lorde

"When I dare to be powerful—to use my strength in service of my vision,then it becomes less and less important whether I am afraid."

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Miya T. Binta is a proud 2001 Audre Lorde Scholarship recipient and is delighted to contribute to the legacy established by this scholarship fund. She is currently transitioning her disaster management experience into the private sector where she is owner of Disaster Protection Services, and inventory and asset management firm. She also serves as a board member for ZAMI, Inc. and SKIL, and adult literacy program serving Rockdale, Newton and DeKalb Counties.

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Sarah Crymes and Rhonda Freeman

Sarah Crymes is a business woman specializing in healthcare administration (MBA/MHSA from University of Michigan). Her passion is building lesbian and feminist communities in Atlanta. She is currently serving as board chair for Charis Circle and previously served as board chair for Fourth Tuesday. **Rhonda Freeman, Ph.D.**, is an engineer who loves all things related to math and science. She also loves her home state of Florida, poodles, swimming and her family. She has been known to have an obsession with puzzles.

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Ntombi (1951-2003), as a national spokesperson, transformed the concept of recovery into a universal human experience for all people. She was an advocate and activist for the rights of women, people of color and the poor. This award is funded by **Rhesa Jenkins** and **Ama Saran**. Rhesa Jenkins is a Stanford educated scientist with a commitment to continuous education in community settings, such as CAU and ANDP's Ford Foundation program in Community Economic Development. Saran's work is best described as a social ministry that teaches the importance of researching community health, mental and physical, to support the efforts of non-profit organizations in creation of sustainable institutions.

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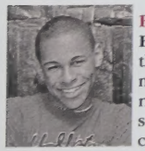
Tamara Bullock, recipient of the **Sheryl Burke Award**, is in her senior year at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts. She is majoring in International Relations and aspires to work in the non-profit sector addressing the social, political, economic, and environmental aspects of development. She wants to focus on women, youth and the LGBT communities of color, both in the advanced and Third World countries. Bullock restarted and co-chaired an LGBT group for people of color at Mount Holyoke; organized meetings, dialogues, and poetry performances for LGBT people of color issues; and continues to write poetry celebrating LGBT identity.

Charlene Cooper, is the recipient of the **Miya Binta Award**. At the age of seventeen with a new born infant, Cooper received the diagnosis that they were both HIV positive. After years of waiting to die, Cooper made the decision to live, and after obtaining her GED, graduated at the top of her class with a bachelor's degree and has now entered the graduate program at Columbia University School of Public Health. Currently, Cooper works as an HIV Adolescent Counselor by providing prevention counseling in an attempt to help eradicate the spread of HIV. She also counsels youth on other issues such as domestic violence, substance use, sexual identity and sexual assault.

Pamela Goodrich is the recipient of the **Kathi Martin-Edith Biggers-Brinda Taylor Award**. At 53 years of age, Goodrich has been "out" for the past forty years. "My perception of normalcy is the (lgbt) lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender community. As a sophomore at The College of New Rochelle in Brooklyn, New York, Goodrich is working toward a degree in Sociology which she feels is the key to opening the door to the rest of her life. A self-described "butch," Goodwin works in a male prison and believes that her sexual orientation and the fact that she has been living with HIV/ AIDS since 1989 enhances her ability to interact and provide HIV Health Education and Prevention Training to not only the prisoners but to members of the community at large.

Franda Graves, the recipient of the **Angelina Huguely Award**, writes about how important being "out" is to her. "As a daughter, former wife, mother, friend, family member, student and employee, being 'out' changes for me in each of these settings. My sexuality, on the other hand, is not optional." Graves is a senior at the University of North Carolina, majoring in Communication Studies/Sign Language Interpretation. She currently works at the Moses Cone Health System as a Neonatal Respiratory Therapist and is the President of the Deaf and Hearing College Connection, an organization that builds bridges between the deaf and hearing communities. Graves hopes to use her education to become a force in the Deaf community but, particularly, in the African-American LGBT Deaf community. Her goal, she says, is to "serve as an advocate, counselor, guide and friend to those suffering with HIV/AIDS in this community."



Brandon Kazen-Maddox, recipient of the **Rhonda Freeman-Sarah Crymes Award** is in his first year at the University of Washington in Seattle. Among his many activities in high school: drama, dance team, newspaper and science club, Kazen-Maddox also served as senior class president, captain of the varsity cheerleading squad and captain of the Athletic Club cheer team while enrolled in the honors track. He has worked as a sign language interpreter and a mentor of children through music. "With financial assistance, I hope to flat out succeed, states Kazen-Maddox. When I attempt to do something, I am going to do it 100% and persist until it is done. I work hard to take nothing for granted because I know how it feels to have nothing. I want to help people and make a huge difference in the lives of others. I want to be a person that people can look to and say, that guy is gay but he's really funny, nice, strong and he's also a leader."

Fiona Lewis, the recipient of the **Linda Bryant Award** has been an integral part of the Atlanta LGBT community and has been working at Charis Books & More for the past eight years. She moved to Atlanta after getting her undergraduate degree in Gender Studies and British and American Literature from New College of Florida. Lewis' first novel, Bliss, was published in 2005 by Kensington Books and her sophomore effort, *A Taste of Sin*, is being released this year. Lewis attends San Diego University in California and is pursuing an MFA degree. Of one of her favorite authors, she writes, "Like Michelle Cliff, I want to write about the Jamaica of my memories, but also about the country as it exists now. I want to talk about things previously unmentioned, like women loving women, and men loving men, and about how we can change our world, or island, one loud voice at a time."

Dale Guy Madison, recipient of the **Tony Daniels Community Ally Award funded by ADODI Muse: A Gay Negro Ensemble**, writes passionately about coming out to his parents. "I came out in 1976 shortly after my 18th birthday. I blurted it out in a moment of proud adoration. My father told me I had to move out of his house in two weeks. My life changed in that moment. My dreams of going to NYU and studying acting vanished. I had to figure out where I was going to live. My friends were preparing for the prom, and I was shopping for an apartment. My closet door opened and I never closed it after that." Madison, a student at Santa Monica College in California, is learning all he can about entertainment marketing by majoring in Business. In 1991, he became a host on the QVC shopping channel. On the show, he conceived and produced the first-ever shopping show dedicated to products originating from Africa. Consequently, QVC helped to launch Madison's career as a nationally recognized doll designer.

Christel Serena Miller, recipient of the **Wendy Belkin Award**, is a four-time Audre Lorde Scholarship recipient. After graduating from Rice University in the spring of 2005 with numerous awards, Miller is now in her second year of graduate school at UCLA studying film production. Her vision these days is to simply produce films about which she is passionate. Miller's most recent film, **Butchalez**, premiered at the Reach LA Queer Youth Filmmakers Showcase earlier this year. She also served as an intern at Pink Thunder Productions and HBO Films and produced Welcome to Paradise, an American Film Institute Project.

Sybille Ngo Nyeck is the recipient of the **K.M. Griffin Award**. A junior at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania, Ngo Nyeck fled her native Cameroon in May 2003 and sought asylum in the U.S. after being denounced as a lesbian and thrown in jail. The first woman to initiate a dialogue beyond hetero-normative discourse in Cameroon, her numerous publications and speeches on human rights abuses have helped win asylum for others in the U.S. She is also working on a video documentary featuring the lives of gays and lesbians in Cameroon. "Being part of ZAMI's Audre Lorde Scholarship Family is special to me. This special feeling comes from the realization that this scholarship does not dichotomize me. Because of ZAMI, I think of myself as a full-fledged scholar of both intellectual merit and sensual consciousness."

> I have come to believe over and over again, that what is most important to me must be spoken, made verbal and shared, even at the risk of having it bruised or misunderstood.
>
> Audre Lorde

Adetunji Olude is the recipient of the **Margaret Ntombi Howell Power & Presence Memorial Award** funded by Rhesa M. Jenkins & Ama Saran. She is pursuing a Law degree at Georgetown in Washington, D.C. Fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, Olude chose juvenile law as a result of challenges she faced in her own life and "a childhood and adolescence plagued by domestic violence." Olude has long been an advocate for the rights of children in the role of counselor and legal assistant in non-profit organizations. "I recognized that a common thread weaves among youth in the delinquency, mental health, and foster care systems. Many of the youth have been abused and lack the constancy of supportive guardians or a safe environment in which to grow." Olude is determined to lead an authentic life and notes that the importance of being "out" for her has a lot to do with being fully engaged in relationships with family and friends and "sharing with them who I truly am."

Ruth Senecharles, recipient of the **Fourth Tuesday Award** is an entering freshman at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, Connecticut. She states that her primary goal is to gain the essential skill set to become a social worker. Senecharles dreams of opening an after school program dedicated to helping children from low-income families as well as lesbian, gay and bisexual youth. "I want to have a safe place for youth to question, and learn and have healthy mutual relationships with adults. I don't want lgbt youth growing up feeling confused and depressed about their sexuality." According to Senecharles, keeping her sexual orientation a secret in high school was stressful, frustrating and complicated. She became mad at the world and angry with herself, however, finally making the decision to come out to family and friends changed her life in a positive way. "Getting an award from the Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund is definitely an eye-opener for me. I'm now able to see how being a lesbian, which was something that I used to look down upon due to what society taught me has actually turned out to be helpful."

Anneliese Singh, a recipient of the **(ALFA) Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance Award** has been a member of the movement towards social justice as a queer woman of color in the Atlanta area for many years. In her community work, she has worked closely with the Queer Progressive Agenda, Trikone-Atlanta, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and AGLBIC (the Association of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual issues in Counseling). Singh, currently pursuing a doctorate in Counseling Psychology at Georgia State University dreams of founding a nonprofit counseling center for LGBTQIQ people that would engage in advocacy and social justice work as well as focus on the ways that internalized oppression impact mental health for people of color and others from marginalized backgrounds. "Over the past year, I have been thinking about how important it is to be out in different ways. I have been working hard on being the best "out" transgender ally I can be. I no longer tolerate any anti-trans or gender-phobic comments, and I do my best to invite understanding and education to transphobic people or people who are uneducated about trans issues."

Kaili Adia Story, recipient of the **Sheryl Burke Award**, is a Doctoral student in African-American Studies at Temple University in Pennsylvania. Named the Graduate Fellow in the Institute for Race and Social Thought at Temple, Story currently teaches two courses there: one in Women's and LGBT Studies that examines same-sex erotic attraction and/or gender difference, and an African-American Studies course that provides an overview of the experience, culture, and political practices of African descendants throughout the world. To Story, it is important to use all of the books, films, and art that have influenced her as a means to communicate to her students; one of things she emphasizes to them is that "Black women have been working together for centuries to change the world that sometimes suffocates us all."

Caroline Tushabe, the recipient of the **Sheryl Burke Award**, is a Doctoral student at SUNY Binghamton studying Philosophy, Sexuality, Race and Gender. At Binghamton, she is an active member of a new initiative called, "The Projects of Queer Studies: Race, Pedagogy, and Social Theory." This initiative seeks to create an intellectual and political climate able to cultivate radical queer of color social thought and activism. Tushabe who serves as President of one of the Graduate Student Associations, also teaches, believing that it is her responsibility to come out as a lesbian of color in the classroom. "I feel responsible to myself and my students to break the silence and confront the fear that invades us all." Tushabe dreams of a future as a transnational cultural worker addressing queer issues in her native Uganda and in the United States. "I hope to be part of a necessarily collective process—at the grassroots and in the academy—of making visible and speakable worlds of lesbian loving within the communities that constitute my own self as African, Ugandan, Mukiga, and 'lesbian of color,' in the United States."

Described as a nonprofit guru, coalition builder, lgbtq/ human rights activist, cultural worker, feminist, writer, and scholar, **Craig Washington**, the recipient of the **Mary Anne Adams Award**, attends Georgia State University earning a degree in Social Work while continuing to work full-time as a volunteer and training coordinator at Positive Impact. According to Washington, "There is not a space or level of community interaction in which I am not open about my sexual orientation. After my initial coming out process, I was intentional about liberating myself from any vestiges of shame or self-consciousness about being gay. I would not befriend anyone who could not accept and affirm that aspect of my being. I am publicly out having appeared in numerous publications and television broadcasts as gay-identified. Being out is not a static condition but an ongoing process of evolution that entails an uncovering, an unpacking, a continual shedding to reach my divine humanity and recognize the humanity of others."

Jeremiah Waters, a rising junior at Drexel University in Philadelphia is the recipient of the **Cherie Caldwell Award**. Waters, a finance and information systems major assumed the entire financial burden for his college education after his clergy father informed him that he would no longer support him if he remained an active homosexual. "I personally take being out very seriously because of the price I have to pay to be an out gay man. Being out has been a wonderful, liberating experience, but it has also caused the most difficult time in my life with my conservative Christian family." With the help of friends and professors, Waters is determined to continue his education and thrive in his life. During the past year, he co-founded a student group called F.U.S.E. (Foundation of Undergraduates for Sexual Equality) where he currently serves as vice-president.

Karen Williams, recipient of the **Fourth Tuesday Award** is in her second year of a Ph. D. program at The Graduate Center, CUNY focusing on Cultural Anthropology. Although she has had an ongoing struggle to raise fund for her education, and continues to balance a full academic load with a demanding job, growing up in a household where neither parent attended college, education and expression have always been central to her goals. Since 1998, with support from grants and community organizations, Williams has used her writings and performances to illustrate the embedded physical and psychological pain of incarceration. At CUNY, her work has looked at the critical intersections for gender, race, sexuality and class as it. relates to the criminalization of women. She is hopeful that her research will have a positive impact and help change society's representation of women in prison to images that "more accurately reflect their complex identities and experiences." Recently, Williams has examined the rise of Methamphetamine usage in the queer youth of color community.

ZAMI Mission Statement

ZAMI's primary mission is to empower and affirm the lives of lesbians of African descent through providing scholarship funds, leadership development, support/discussion groups, social activities, outreach and education.

The Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund

The scholarship fund is the brainchild of ZAMI's current Board Chair, Mary Anne Adams. The first two scholarships were awarded in 1997 to Wendi O'Neal from Spelman College and Akeya Works from Georgia State University.

Since that time, we have awarded over $100,000 in scholarship money to "out" lesbians and gay men of color nation–wide who are making significant contributions to their communities.

ZAMI Board Members

Board Chair: Mary Anne Adams

Members:

Edith Biggers
Miya Binta
Lynn Duhart
Beryl Jackson
Frances E. Wood

Thanks

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Connie Cross

Tonia Poteat

Angie B.

The Drag Kings: Shon Franklin Thomas, Deon Santiago, Billy Jean Royalle, Tigga, CamRon, Tommy Boy, Kid, Seaman Cock, Storme, Capone

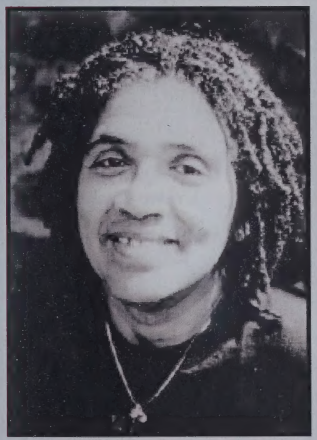
Much love and appreciation to our featured Artists:
Louisa McCullough , Angelina Huguely, Drum Sista,
Lilli Lewis, Lillie Huddleston, ADODI Muse

Executive producer, Lisa R. Campell; Producer, Mary Anne Adams of Madam Productions

Visit www.zami.org for more information on our scholars, donors, and upcoming events.

The Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund

September 30, 2006



Audre Lorde

"When I dare to be powerful—to use my strength in service of my vision,then it becomes less and less important whether I am afraid."

~Audre Lorde

ZAMI: A Carriacou word for women who work together as friends and lovers...

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Cherie Caldwell is Managing Director, Human Resources at Delta Air Lines, Inc. Caldwell has global responsibility for Talent Acquisition, Retention and Diversity for the fastest growing international passenger airline carrier. In her newly appointed role, she is accountable for building global strategies and implementing programs to optimize the hiring and retention of critical and diverse talent. Caldwell graduated with honors from the University of Maryland where she majored in Human Resources Management. She currently holds a professional SPHR certification and lives in Atlanta.

Sarah Crymes and Rhonda Freeman

Sarah Crymes is a business woman specializing in healthcare administration (MBA/MHSA from University of Michigan). Her passion is building lesbian and feminist communities in Atlanta. She is currently serving as board chair for Charis Circle and previously served as board chair for Fourth Tuesday. **Rhonda Freeman, Ph.D.**, is an engineer who loves all things related to math and science. She also loves her home state of Florida, poodles, swimming and her family. She has been known to have an obsession with puzzles.

Fourth Tuesday is a diverse, non-profit organization serving the LGBT community in Atlanta and the Southeast. It has been dedicated to providing a safe, caring, and welcoming environment for business networking and social events for over 20 years.

A native of Louisiana, **K.M. Griffin** is a graduate of Louisiana State University. She has worked over 15 years in the energy and utility industries, where she currently serves as a Manager in the area of Legal and Regulatory Compliance. Griffin makes her home in a suburb of Atlanta, GA where she is an advocate for elderly and HIV/AIDS concerns.

Angelina Huguely is a native of Kentucky and graduate of Eastern Kentucky University. She is an occupational therapist and has practiced in settings ranging from pediatric to geriatric populations. In addition to being a health care professional, Huguely has been a saxophonist since elementary school. She enjoys all music genres, but receives greatest satisfaction while performing gospel.

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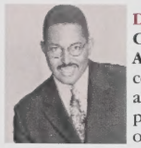
Charlene Cooper, is the recipient of the **Miya Binta Award**. At the age of seventeen with a new born infant, Cooper received the diagnosis that they were both HIV positive. After years of waiting to die, Cooper made the decision to live, and after obtaining her GED, graduated at the top of her class with a bachelor's degree and has now entered the graduate program at Columbia University School of Public Health. Currently, Cooper works as an HIV Adolescent Counselor by providing prevention counseling in an attempt to help eradicate the spread of HIV. She also counsels youth on other issues such as domestic violence, substance use, sexual identity and sexual assault.

Pamela Goodrich is the recipient of the **Kathi Martin-Edith Biggers-Brinda Taylor Award**. At 53 years of age, Goodrich has been "out" for the past forty years. "My perception of normalcy is the (lgbt) lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender community. As a sophomore at The College of New Rochelle in Brooklyn, New York, Goodrich is working toward a degree in Sociology which she feels is the key to opening the door to the rest of her life. A self-described "butch," Goodwin works in a male prison and believes that her sexual orientation and the fact that she has been living with HIV/ AIDS since 1989 enhances her ability to interact and provide HIV Health Education and Prevention Training to not only the prisoners but to members of the community at large.

Franda Graves, the recipient of the **Angelina Huguely Award**, writes about how important being "out" is to her. "As a daughter, former wife, mother, friend, family member, student and employee, being 'out' changes for me in each of these settings. My sexuality, on the other hand, is not optional." Graves is a senior at the University of North Carolina, majoring in Communication Studies/Sign Language Interpretation. She currently works at the Moses Cone Health System as a Neonatal Respiratory Therapist and is the President of the Deaf and Hearing College Connection, an organization that builds bridges between the deaf and hearing communities. Graves hopes to use her education to become a force in the Deaf community but, particularly, in the African-American LGBT Deaf community. Her goal, she says, is to "serve as an advocate, counselor, guide and friend to those suffering with HIV/AIDS in this community."

Brandon Kazen-Maddox, recipient of the **Rhonda Freeman-Sarah Crymes Award** is in his first year at the University of Washington in Seattle. Among his many activities in high school: drama, dance team, newspaper and science club, Kazen-Maddox also served as senior class president, captain of the varsity cheerleading squad and captain of the Athletic Club cheer team while enrolled in the honors track. He has worked as a sign language interpreter and a mentor of children through music. "With financial assistance, I hope to flat out succeed, states Kazen-Maddox. When I attempt to do something, I am going to do it 100% and persist until it is done. I work hard to take nothing for granted because I know how it feels to have nothing. I want to help people and make a huge difference in the lives of others. I want to be a person that people can look to and say, that guy is gay but he's really funny, nice, strong and he's also a leader."

Fiona Lewis, the recipient of the **Linda Bryant Award** has been an integral part of the Atlanta LGBT community and has been working at Charis Books & More for the past eight years. She moved to Atlanta after getting her undergraduate degree in Gender Studies and British and American Literature from New College of Florida. Lewis' first novel, Bliss, was published in 2005 by Kensington Books and her sophomore effort, *A Taste of Sin*, is being released this year. Lewis attends San Diego University in California and is pursuing an MFA degree. Of one of her favorite authors, she writes, "Like Michelle Cliff, I want to write about the Jamaica of my memories, but also about the country as it exists now. I want to talk about things previously unmentioned, like women loving women, and men loving men, and about how we can change our world, or island, one loud voice at a time."



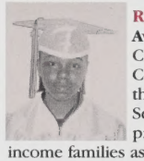
Dale Guy Madison, recipient of the **Tony Daniels Community Ally Award funded by ADODI Muse: A Gay Negro Ensemble**, writes passionately about coming out to his parents. "I came out in 1976 shortly after my 18th birthday. I blurted it out in a moment of proud adoration. My father told me I had to move out of his house in two weeks. My life changed in that moment. My dreams of going to NYU and studying acting vanished. I had to figure out where I was going to live. My friends were preparing for the prom, and I was shopping for an apartment. My closet door opened and I never closed it after that." Madison, a student at Santa Monica College in California, is learning all he can about entertainment marketing by majoring in Business. In 1991, he became a host on the QVC shopping channel. On the show, he conceived and produced the first-ever shopping show dedicated to products originating from Africa. Consequently, QVC helped to launch Madison's career as a nationally recognized doll designer.

Christel Serena Miller, recipient of the **Wendy Belkin Award**, is a four-time Audre Lorde Scholarship recipient. After graduating from Rice University in the spring of 2005 with numerous awards, Miller is now in her second year of graduate school at UCLA studying film production. Her vision these days is to simply produce films about which she is passionate. Miller's most recent film, **Butchalez**, premiered at the Reach LA Queer Youth Filmmakers Showcase earlier this year. She also served as an intern at Pink Thunder Productions and HBO Films and produced Welcome to Paradise, an American Film Institute Project.

Sybille Ngo Nyeck is the recipient of the **K.M. Griffin Award**. A junior at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania, Ngo Nyeck fled her native Cameroon in May 2003 and sought asylum in the U.S. after being denounced as a lesbian and thrown in jail. The first woman to initiate a dialogue beyond hetero-normative discourse in Cameroon, her numerous publications and speeches on human rights abuses have helped win asylum for others in the U.S. She is also working on a video documentary featuring the lives of gays and lesbians in Cameroon. "Being part of ZAMI's Audre Lorde Scholarship Family is special to me. This special feeling comes from the realization that this scholarship does not dichotomize me. Because of ZAMI, I think of myself as a full-fledged scholar of both intellectual merit and sensual consciousness."

> I have come to believe over and over again, that what is most important to me must be spoken, made verbal and shared, even at the risk of having it bruised or misunderstood.
>
> Audre Lorde

Adetunji Olude is the recipient of the **Margaret Ntombi Howell Power & Presence Memorial Award** funded by Rhesa M. Jenkins & Ama Saran. She is pursuing a Law degree at Georgetown in Washington, D.C. Fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, Olude chose juvenile law as a result of challenges she faced in her own life and "a childhood and adolescence plagued by domestic violence." Olude has long been an advocate for the rights of children in the role of counselor and legal assistant in non-profit organizations. "I recognized that a common thread weaves among youth in the delinquency, mental health, and foster care systems. Many of the youth have been abused and lack the constancy of supportive guardians or a safe environment in which to grow." Olude is determined to lead an authentic life and notes that the importance of being "out" for her has a lot to do with being fully engaged in relationships with family and friends and "sharing with them who I truly am."

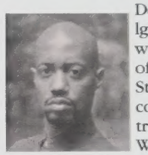


Ruth Senecharles, recipient of the **Fourth Tuesday Award** is an entering freshman at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, Connecticut. She states that her primary goal is to gain the essential skill set to become a social worker. Senecharles dreams of opening an after school program dedicated to helping children from low-income families as well as lesbian, gay and bisexual youth. "I want to have a safe place for youth to question, and learn and have healthy mutual relationships with adults. I don't want lgbt youth growing up feeling confused and depressed about their sexuality." According to Senecharles, keeping her sexual orientation a secret in high school was stressful, frustrating and complicated. She became mad at the world and angry with herself, however, finally making the decision to come out to family and friends changed her life in a positive way. "Getting an award from the Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund is definitely an eye-opener for me. I'm now able to see how being a lesbian, which was something that I used to look down upon due to what society taught me has actually turned out to be helpful."

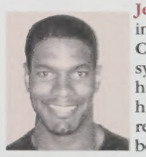
Anneliese Singh, a recipient of the **(ALFA) Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance Award** has been a member of the movement towards social justice as a queer woman of color in the Atlanta area for many years. In her community work, she has worked closely with the Queer Progressive Agenda, Trikone-Atlanta, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and AGLBIC (the Association of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual issues in Counseling). Singh, currently pursuing a doctorate in Counseling Psychology at Georgia State University dreams of founding a nonprofit counseling center for LGBTQIQ people that would engage in advocacy and social justice work as well as focus on the ways that internalized oppression impact mental health for people of color and others from marginalized backgrounds. "Over the past year, I have been thinking about how important it is to be out in different ways. I have been working hard on being the best "out" transgender ally I can be. I no longer tolerate any anti-trans or gender-phobic comments, and I do my best to invite understanding and education to transphobic people or people who are uneducated about trans issues."

Kaili Adia Story, recipient of the **Sheryl Burke Award**, is a Doctoral student in African-American Studies at Temple University in Pennsylvania. Named the Graduate Fellow in the Institute for Race and Social Thought at Temple, Story currently teaches two courses there: one in Women's and LGBT Studies that examines same-sex erotic attraction and/or gender difference, and an African-American Studies course that provides an overview of the experience, culture, and political practices of African descendants throughout the world. To Story, it is important to use all of the books, films, and art that have influenced her as a means to communicate to her students; one of things she emphasizes to them is that "Black women have been working together for centuries to change the world that sometimes suffocates us all."

Caroline Tushabe, the recipient of the **Sheryl Burke Award**, is a Doctoral student at SUNY Binghamton studying Philosophy, Sexuality, Race and Gender. At Binghamton, she is an active member of a new initiative called, "The Projects of Queer Studies: Race, Pedagogy, and Social Theory." This initiative seeks to create an intellectual and political climate able to cultivate radical queer of color social thought and activism. Tushabe who serves as President of one of the Graduate Student Associations, also teaches, believing that it is her responsibility to come out as a lesbian of color in the classroom. "I feel responsible to myself and my students to break the silence and confront the fear that invades us all." Tushabe dreams of a future as a transnational cultural worker addressing queer issues in her native Uganda and in the United States. "I hope to be part of a necessarily collective process—at the grassroots and in the academy—of making visible and speakable worlds of lesbian loving within the communities that constitute my own self as African, Ugandan, Mukiga, and 'lesbian of color,' in the United States."



Described as a nonprofit guru, coalition builder, lgbtq/ human rights activist, cultural worker, feminist, writer, and scholar, **Craig Washington**, the recipient of the **Mary Anne Adams Award**, attends Georgia State University earning a degree in Social Work while continuing to work full-time as a volunteer and training coordinator at Positive Impact. According to Washington, "There is not a space or level of community interaction in which I am not open about my sexual orientation. After my initial coming out process, I was intentional about liberating myself from any vestiges of shame or self-consciousness about being gay. I would not befriend anyone who could not accept and affirm that aspect of my being. I am publicly out having appeared in numerous publications and television broadcasts as gay-identified. Being out is not a static condition but an ongoing process of evolution that entails an uncovering, an unpacking, a continual shedding to reach my divine humanity and recognize the humanity of others."



Jeremiah Waters, a rising junior at Drexel University in Philadelphia is the recipient of the **Cherie Caldwell Award**. Waters, a finance and information systems major assumed the entire financial burden for his college education after his clergy father informed him that he would no longer support him if he remained an active homosexual. "I personally take being out very seriously because of the price I have to pay to be an out gay man. Being out has been a wonderful, liberating experience, but it has also caused the most difficult time in my life with my conservative Christian family." With the help of friends and professors, Waters is determined to continue his education and thrive in his life. During the past year, he co-founded a student group called F.U.S.E. (Foundation of Undergraduates for Sexual Equality) where he currently serves as vice-president.

Karen Williams, recipient of the **Fourth Tuesday Award** is in her second year of a Ph. D. program at The Graduate Center, CUNY focusing on Cultural Anthropology. Although she has had an ongoing struggle to raise fund for her education, and continues to balance a full academic load with a demanding job, growing up in a household where neither parent attended college, education and expression have always been central to her goals. Since 1998, with support from grants and community organizations, Williams has used her writings and performances to illustrate the embedded physical and psychological pain of incarceration. At CUNY, her work has looked at the critical intersections for gender, race, sexuality and class as it relates to the criminalization of women. She is hopeful that her research will have a positive impact and help change society's representation of women in prison to images that "more accurately reflect their complex identities and experiences." Recently, Williams has examined the rise of Methamphetamine usage in the queer youth of color community.

ZAMI Mission Statement

ZAMI's primary mission is to empower and affirm the lives of lesbians of African descent through providing scholarship funds, leadership development, support/discussion groups, social activities, outreach and education.

The Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund

The scholarship fund is the brainchild of ZAMI's current Board Chair, Mary Anne Adams. The first two scholarships were awarded in 1997 to Wendi O'Neal from Spelman College and Akeya Works from Georgia State University.

Since that time, we have awarded over $100,000 in scholarship money to "out" lesbians and gay men of color nation–wide who are making significant contributions to their communities.

ZAMI Board Members

Board Chair: Mary Anne Adams

Members:

Edith Biggers
Miya Binta
Lynn Duhart
Beryl Jackson
Frances E. Wood

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The Drag Kings: Shon Franklin Thomas, Deon Santiago, Billy Jean Royalle, Tigga, CamRon, Tommy Boy, Kid, Seaman Cock, Storme, Capone

Much love and appreciation to our featured Artists:
Louisa McCullough , Angelina Huguely, Drum Sista, Lilli Lewis, Lillie Huddleston, ADODI Muse

Executive producer, Lisa R. Campell; Producer, Mary Anne Adams of Madam Productions

Visit www.zami.org for more information on our scholars, donors, and upcoming events.

The Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund

September 30, 2006

Audre Lorde

"When I dare to be powerful—to use my strength in service of my vision,then it becomes less and less important whether I am afraid."

~Audre Lorde

ZAMI: A Carriacou word for women who work together as friends and lovers...

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A long-time community activist and organizer, **Mary Anne Adams** serves as board Chair of ZAMI and is the founder of the Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund. Since 1999, she has founded Sister Outsider with a focus on lesbians and aging issues, Madam Productions which fosters community through musical and literary expression and Drum Sista, a drumming performance group for lesbians of color. Adams has a Master of Social Work from Georgia State University and makes her living as a Senior Program Associate/Project Manager at Emory University School of Medicine, while also running her own business, The Adams Research Group.

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Anthony C. Daniels (1965 – 1998), was one of Atlanta's most powerful organizers and activists. Daniels was a founder of In The Life Atlanta, Inc., of ADODI Muse, Inc., and of the Black Lesbian & Gay Poets Society. This scholarship is funded by ADODI Muse, Inc: A Gay Negro Ensemble, the black gay male performance poets' collective. Muse members, **Duncan E. Teague**, **Malik M.L. Williams** and **Anthony Antoine** specifically recognize Daniels' work to build bridges across diverse communities.

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Wendy Belkin was born in Cleveland, Ohio. She took her last accounting final in August, 1979, got in her car, and drove to Atlanta. She has been here ever since. Belkin practices law and accounting in her own small practice in Decatur and has been a long-time supporter of Charis Books, Charis Circle and ZAMI. She is an amateur astronomer and photographer.

Edith Biggers, MD is a public health physician who delivers compassionate and state-of-the-art medical care to indigent, uninsured, underserved, and substance using HIV positive patients, with an emphasis on maximizing self-empowerment through education. Additionally, she has been a volunteer at AIDS Survival Project for more than 10 years. As an African American woman specializing in HIV care and treatment, her presence has an empowering effect on those the Project serves. Dr. Biggers is a native of Atlanta and received her MD from Emory University School of Medicine.

Miya T. Binta is a proud 2001 Audre Lorde Scholarship recipient and is delighted to contribute to the legacy established by this scholarship fund. She is currently transitioning her disaster management experience into the private sector where she is owner of Disaster Protection Services, and inventory and asset management firm. She also serves as a board member for ZAMI, Inc. and SKIL, and adult literacy program serving Rockdale, Newton and DeKalb Counties.

Linda Bryant, co-founder of Charis Books and Charis Circle, has been lovingly involved with ZAMI since its inception. Her formal education is in English from the University of Florida and in theology from the Candler School of Theology at Emory, but her life lessons come from her years of daily engagement with the wonderfully diverse and committed community she meets at Charis, from her long-term love with Wendy Belkin, and from being a parent and now grandparent. Bryant's desire to serve Spirit with integrity and grace is at the heart of her life.

Sheryl Burke is a Personal Injury Attorney who operates her own law practices based in Georgia and California. Burke, a native of Los Angeles, California, is a graduate of St. Louis University Law School and is a member of the National and Georgia Trial Lawyers' Association.

Cherie Caldwell is Managing Director, Human Resources at Delta Air Lines, Inc. Caldwell has global responsibility for Talent Acquisition, Retention and Diversity for the fastest growing international passenger airline carrier. In her newly appointed role, she is accountable for building global strategies and implementing programs to optimize the hiring and retention of critical and diverse talent. Caldwell graduated with honors from the University of Maryland where she majored in Human Resources Management. She currently holds a professional SPHR certification and lives in Atlanta.

Sarah Crymes and Rhonda Freeman

Sarah Crymes is a business woman specializing in healthcare administration (MBA/MHSA from University of Michigan). Her passion is building lesbian and feminist communities in Atlanta. She is currently serving as board chair for Charis Circle and previously served as board chair for Fourth Tuesday. **Rhonda Freeman, Ph.D.**, is an engineer who loves all things related to math and science. She also loves her home state of Florida, poodles, swimming and her family. She has been known to have an obsession with puzzles.

Fourth Tuesday is a diverse, non-profit organization serving the LGBT community in Atlanta and the Southeast. It has been dedicated to providing a safe, caring, and welcoming environment for business networking and social events for over 20 years.

A native of Louisiana, **K.M. Griffin** is a graduate of Louisiana State University. She has worked over 15 years in the energy and utility industries, where she currently serves as a Manager in the area of Legal and Regulatory Compliance. Griffin makes her home in a suburb of Atlanta, GA where she is an advocate for elderly and HIV/AIDS concerns.

Angelina Huguely is a native of Kentucky and graduate of Eastern Kentucky University. She is an occupational therapist and has practiced in settings ranging from pediatric to geriatric populations. In addition to being a health care professional, Huguely has been a saxophonist since elementary school. She enjoys all music genres, but receives greatest satisfaction while performing gospel.

The Margaret Ntombi Howell Power & Presence Memorial Award

Ntombi (1951-2003), as a national spokesperson, transformed the concept of recovery into a universal human experience for all people. She was an advocate and activist for the rights of women, people of color and the poor. This award is funded by **Rhesa Jenkins** and **Ama Saran**. Rhesa Jenkins is a Stanford educated scientist with a commitment to continuous education in community settings, such as CAU and ANDP's Ford Foundation program in Community Economic Development. Saran's work is best described as a social ministry that teaches the importance of researching community health, mental and physical, to support the efforts of non-profit organizations in creation of sustainable institutions.

Rev. Dr. Kathi E. Martin is a speaker/preacher with particular concern for bridge-building across the divides of race, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation, and physical ability. Rev. Martin, a pastor at First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta, was pressured to leave her African Methodist Episcopal church in 1998 after sanctifying a same-sex marriage. A minister's daughter, Martin grew up proud to belong to a historical black church that was founded on liberation. But, she said, "I think it will be years before I would be comfortable in a traditional church."

Brinda Taylor is a native of Jackson, Mississippi and studied Therapeutic Recreation at the University of Mississippi and Jackson State University. She is currently employed as a Project Manager for Verizon Business (formerly MCI/Worldcom) She dedicates her time/life volunteering for several organization in the Atlanta area such as Hands on Atlanta, CRN (Children Restoration Network), Juvenile Diabetes, and the AIDS Walk. Taylor is currently the Community Action Coordinator for Alpharetta Verizon employees.

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Brandon Kazen-Maddox, recipient of the **Rhonda Freeman-Sarah Crymes Award** is in his first year at the University of Washington in Seattle. Among his many activities in high school: drama, dance team, newspaper and science club, Kazen-Maddox also served as senior class president, captain of the varsity cheerleading squad and captain of the Athletic Club cheer team while enrolled in the honors track. He has worked as a sign language interpreter and a mentor of children through music. "With financial assistance, I hope to flat out succeed, states Kazen-Maddox. When I attempt to do something, I am going to do it 100% and persist until it is done. I work hard to take nothing for granted because I know how it feels to have nothing. I want to help people and make a huge difference in the lives of others. I want to be a person that people can look to and say, that guy is gay but he's really funny, nice, strong and he's also a leader."

Fiona Lewis, the recipient of the **Linda Bryant Award** has been an integral part of the Atlanta LGBT community and has been working at Charis Books & More for the past eight years. She moved to Atlanta after getting her undergraduate degree in Gender Studies and British and American Literature from New College of Florida. Lewis' first novel, Bliss, was published in 2005 by Kensington Books and her sophomore effort, *A Taste of Sin*, is being released this year. Lewis attends San Diego University in California and is pursuing an MFA degree. Of one of her favorite authors, she writes, "Like Michelle Cliff, I want to write about the Jamaica of my memories, but also about the country as it exists now. I want to talk about things previously unmentioned, like women loving women, and men loving men, and about how we can change our world, or island, one loud voice at a time."

Dale Guy Madison, recipient of the **Tony Daniels Community Ally Award funded by ADODI Muse: A Gay Negro Ensemble**, writes passionately about coming out to his parents. "I came out in 1976 shortly after my 18th birthday. I blurted it out in a moment of proud adoration. My father told me I had to move out of his house in two weeks. My life changed in that moment. My dreams of going to NYU and studying acting vanished. I had to figure out where I was going to live. My friends were preparing for the prom, and I was shopping for an apartment. My closet door opened and I never closed it after that." Madison, a student at Santa Monica College in California, is learning all he can about entertainment marketing by majoring in Business. In 1991, he became a host on the QVC shopping channel. On the show, he conceived and produced the first-ever shopping show dedicated to products originating from Africa. Consequently, QVC helped to launch Madison's career as a nationally recognized doll designer.

Christel Serena Miller, recipient of the **Wendy Belkin Award**, is a four-time Audre Lorde Scholarship recipient. After graduating from Rice University in the spring of 2005 with numerous awards, Miller is now in her second year of graduate school at UCLA studying film production. Her vision these days is to simply produce films about which she is passionate. Miller's most recent film, **Butchalez**, premiered at the Reach LA Queer Youth Filmmakers Showcase earlier this year. She also served as an intern at Pink Thunder Productions and HBO Films and produced Welcome to Paradise, an American Film Institute Project.

Sybille Ngo Nyeck is the recipient of the **K.M. Griffin Award**. A junior at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania, Ngo Nyeck fled her native Cameroon in May 2003 and sought asylum in the U.S. after being denounced as a lesbian and thrown in jail. The first woman to initiate a dialogue beyond hetero-normative discourse in Cameroon, her numerous publications and speeches on human rights abuses have helped win asylum for others in the U.S. She is also working on a video documentary featuring the lives of gays and lesbians in Cameroon. "Being part of ZAMI's Audre Lorde Scholarship Family is special to me. This special feeling comes from the realization that this scholarship does not dichotomize me. Because of ZAMI, I think of myself as a full-fledged scholar of both intellectual merit and sensual consciousness."

> I have come to believe over and over again, that what is most important to me must be spoken, made verbal and shared, even at the risk of having it bruised or misunderstood.
>
> Audre Lorde

Adetunji Olude is the recipient of the **Margaret Ntombi Howell Power & Presence Memorial Award** funded by Rhesa M. Jenkins & Ama Saran. She is pursuing a Law degree at Georgetown in Washington, D.C. Fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, Olude chose juvenile law as a result of challenges she faced in her own life and "a childhood and adolescence plagued by domestic violence." Olude has long been an advocate for the rights of children in the role of counselor and legal assistant in non-profit organizations. "I recognized that a common thread weaves among youth in the delinquency, mental health, and foster care systems. Many of the youth have been abused and lack the constancy of supportive guardians or a safe environment in which to grow." Olude is determined to lead an authentic life and notes that the importance of being "out" for her has a lot to do with being fully engaged in relationships with family and friends and "sharing with them who I truly am."

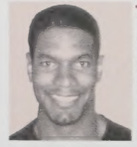
Ruth Senecharles, recipient of the **Fourth Tuesday Award** is an entering freshman at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, Connecticut. She states that her primary goal is to gain the essential skill set to become a social worker. Senecharles dreams of opening an after school program dedicated to helping children from low-income families as well as lesbian, gay and bisexual youth. "I want to have a safe place for youth to question, and learn and have healthy mutual relationships with adults. I don't want lgbt youth growing up feeling confused and depressed about their sexuality." According to Senecharles, keeping her sexual orientation a secret in high school was stressful, frustrating and complicated. She became mad at the world and angry with herself, however, finally making the decision to come out to family and friends changed her life in a positive way. "Getting an award from the Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund is definitely an eye-opener for me. I'm now able to see how being a lesbian, which was something that I used to look down upon due to what society taught me has actually turned out to be helpful."

Anneliese Singh, a recipient of the **(ALFA) Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance Award** has been a member of the movement towards social justice as a queer woman of color in the Atlanta area for many years. In her community work, she has worked closely with the Queer Progressive Agenda, Trikone-Atlanta, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and AGLBIC (the Association of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual issues in Counseling). Singh, currently pursuing a doctorate in Counseling Psychology at Georgia State University dreams of founding a nonprofit counseling center for LGBTQIQ people that would engage in advocacy and social justice work as well as focus on the ways that internalized oppression impact mental health for people of color and others from marginalized backgrounds. "Over the past year, I have been thinking about how important it is to be out in different ways. I have been working hard on being the best "out" transgender ally I can be. I no longer tolerate any anti-trans or gender-phobic comments, and I do my best to invite understanding and education to transphobic people or people who are uneducated about trans issues."

Kaili Adia Story, recipient of the **Sheryl Burke Award**, is a Doctoral student in African-American Studies at Temple University in Pennsylvania. Named the Graduate Fellow in the Institute for Race and Social Thought at Temple, Story currently teaches two courses there: one in Women's and LGBT Studies that examines same-sex erotic attraction and/or gender difference, and an African-American Studies course that provides an overview of the experience, culture, and political practices of African descendants throughout the world. To Story, it is important to use all of the books, films, and art that have influenced her as a means to communicate to her students; one of things she emphasizes to them is that "Black women have been working together for centuries to change the world that sometimes suffocates us all."

Caroline Tushabe, the recipient of the **Sheryl Burke Award**, is a Doctoral student at SUNY Binghamton studying Philosophy, Sexuality, Race and Gender. At Binghamton, she is an active member of a new initiative called, "The Projects of Queer Studies: Race, Pedagogy, and Social Theory." This initiative seeks to create an intellectual and political climate able to cultivate radical queer of color social thought and activism. Tushabe who serves as President of one of the Graduate Student Associations, also teaches, believing that it is her responsibility to come out as a lesbian of color in the classroom. "I feel responsible to myself and my students to break the silence and confront the fear that invades us all." Tushabe dreams of a future as a transnational cultural worker addressing queer issues in her native Uganda and in the United States. "I hope to be part of a necessarily collective process—at the grassroots and in the academy—of making visible and speakable worlds of lesbian loving within the communities that constitute my own self as African, Ugandan, Mukiga, and 'lesbian of color,' in the United States."

Described as a nonprofit guru, coalition builder, lgbtq/ human rights activist, cultural worker, feminist, writer, and scholar, **Craig Washington**, the recipient of the **Mary Anne Adams Award**, attends Georgia State University earning a degree in Social Work while continuing to work full-time as a volunteer and training coordinator at Positive Impact. According to Washington, "There is not a space or level of community interaction in which I am not open about my sexual orientation. After my initial coming out process, I was intentional about liberating myself from any vestiges of shame or self-consciousness about being gay. I would not befriend anyone who could not accept and affirm that aspect of my being. I am publicly out having appeared in numerous publications and television broadcasts as gay-identified. Being out is not a static condition but an ongoing process of evolution that entails an uncovering, an unpacking, a continual shedding to reach my divine humanity and recognize the humanity of others."



Jeremiah Waters, a rising junior at Drexel University in Philadelphia is the recipient of the **Cherie Caldwell Award**. Waters, a finance and information systems major assumed the entire financial burden for his college education after his clergy father informed him that he would no longer support him if he remained an active homosexual. "I personally take being out very seriously because of the price I have to pay to be an out gay man. Being out has been a wonderful, liberating experience, but it has also caused the most difficult time in my life with my conservative Christian family." With the help of friends and professors, Waters is determined to continue his education and thrive in his life. During the past year, he co-founded a student group called F.U.S.E. (Foundation of Undergraduates for Sexual Equality) where he currently serves as vice-president.

Karen Williams, recipient of the **Fourth Tuesday Award** is in her second year of a Ph. D. program at The Graduate Center, CUNY focusing on Cultural Anthropology. Although she has had an ongoing struggle to raise fund for her education, and continues to balance a full academic load with a demanding job, growing up in a household where neither parent attended college, education and expression have always been central to her goals. Since 1998, with support from grants and community organizations, Williams has used her writings and performances to illustrate the embedded physical and psychological pain of incarceration. At CUNY, her work has looked at the critical intersections for gender, race, sexuality and class as it relates to the criminalization of women. She is hopeful that her research will have a positive impact and help change society's representation of women in prison to images that "more accurately reflect their complex identities and experiences." Recently, Williams has examined the rise of Methamphetamine usage in the queer youth of color community.

ZAMI Mission Statement

ZAMI's primary mission is to empower and affirm the lives of lesbians of African descent through providing scholarship funds, leadership development, support/discussion groups, social activities, outreach and education.

The Audre Lorde Scholarship Fund

The scholarship fund is the brainchild of ZAMI's current Board Chair, Mary Anne Adams. The first two scholarships were awarded in 1997 to Wendi O'Neal from Spelman College and Akeya Works from Georgia State University.

Since that time, we have awarded over $100,000 in scholarship money to "out" lesbians and gay men of color nation–wide who are making significant contributions to their communities.

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Louisa McCullough , Angelina Huguely, Drum Sista, Lilli Lewis, Lillie Huddleston, ADODI Muse

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Visit www.zami.org for more information on our scholars, donors, and upcoming events.